

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Notice of Proposed Determination Pertaining to Energy Conservation Standards for Fluorescent Lamp Ballasts

#### 1. What is the purpose of this notice?

In this Notice of Proposed Determination (“NOPD”), the DOE proposes not to amend energy conservation standards for fluorescent lamp ballasts (“FLBs”). DOE has tentatively determined that amended standards for FLBs would result in a negative net present value and therefore, would not be cost effective. In this NOPD, DOE also announces a webinar to receive comment on the proposed determination and associated analyses and results. This NOPD is part of DOE’s ongoing commitment to consider feedback from all interested stakeholders and promote an open and transparent rulemaking process.

#### 2. What type of information is the Department looking for?

In this NOPD, DOE seeks comments and information on the efficiency levels evaluated; the end-user prices; the energy use of dimming ballasts; the operating hour reductions related to the use of lighting controls; the appropriateness of the shipment scenarios analyzed; whether shipments of dimming versus non-dimming ballasts decline at different rates; what factors may result in a standards-induced shift away from FLB technology; information on the input power and prices of light-emitting diode (“LED”) systems that can serve as replacements for FLB systems; and impediments users may face in transitioning from FLB technology to LED technology.

#### 3. What is a Fluorescent Lamp Ballast?

A fluorescent lamp ballast is a device used to start and operate fluorescent lamps. The ballast provides the initial voltage and current necessary to initiate a fluorescent discharge and then limits the electrical current to safely sustain the fluorescent light discharge during lamp operation.

#### 4. How much energy do Fluorescent Lamp Ballast consume?

In aggregate, FLBs currently consume approximately 2.1 quads/year of full-fuel-cycle energy in the United States, or about 4.7 percent of buildings’ energy use.

#### 5. How many Fluorescent Lamp Ballast are shipped annually in the United States?

There were about 90 million FLBs shipped in 2015.

#### 6. Who are the parties that may be interested in this notice?

Interested parties include manufacturers, trade associations, distributors, energy utilities, state agencies, international organizations, and consumer, energy, and environmental advocacy groups.

#### 7. How does an interested party comment on this notice and when are comments due?

The comment period for this rule will be 60 days, beginning on the date in which this document publishes in the *Federal Register*. Interested parties may submit comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> or via email to [FluorLampBallast2015STD0006@ee.doe.gov](mailto:FluorLampBallast2015STD0006@ee.doe.gov), identified with docket number EERE-2015-BT-STD-0006. Comments may also be submitted via postal mail or hand delivery by following the instructions found in the document.